

Palmer Northup House (1709)

HABS No. RI-40

~~Kingston, Rhode Island~~
~~(North Kingstown)~~
Wickford

HABS
RI
5-KINGN,
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Rhode Island

Historic American Buildings Survey (Fed.)
Philip D. Creer, District Officer
14 College Street, Providence
Rhode Island

ADDENDUM TO:
PALMER NORTHRUP HOUSE
7919 Post Road (U.S. Route Alternate 1)
North Kingston
Washington County
Rhode Island

HABS RI-40
RI, 5-KINGN, 4-

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Addendum to PALMER NORTHRUP HOUSE

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Location: 7919 Post Road, North Kingstown, Washington County, Rhode Island.

Description: Originally built as a one-room, one and one-half story “stone ender”, the Palmer-Northrup House was enlarged in the mid-eighteenth century. The addition is visible on the northern side of the house, particularly with the retention of the chimney and the uneven placement of the fenestration in the northwest elevation. Today the house is two stories in height and three bays across. It is capped by a gable roof, and has two interior chimneys to the northeast end. The “stone ender” is the northwest elevation; the front façade is to southeast. The southeast elevation, as well as those to the side, are framed and covered in clapboards.

History: Erected in the last quarter of the seventeenth century, this small dwelling is the best remaining example of the one room, one and one-half story “stone ender” that once proliferated Rhode Island. Tradition associates this building with Roger Williams, either as his house of 1643 or his trading post of ca. 1638, but little survived King Philip’s War of 1675-76, at least not south of Warwick. This building, then, must post-date that epoch and so dates to no earlier than 1676. The Hall family expanded the house in the mid-eighteenth century, raising it to a full two stories and installing paneling on the interior. Because of the Hall family’s contributions to the building’s architectural character, the structure is also known called the “Hall-Northup House.”¹

¹ “North Kingstown, Rhode Island, Statewide Historical Preservation Report W-NK-1,” Report for the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, November 1979, 6, 11, 57. “Northrup” is spelled as “Northup” in this document.